

REMARKS

Review and reconsideration on the merits are requested.

Applicant affirms the election of claims 1-10.

The Prior Art

U.S. Patent 5,925,438 Ota et al (Ota); U.S. Patent 5,639,517 Floch et al (Floch).

The Rejections

Claims 1-7 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Ota.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Floch.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ota.

The Examiner's position is set forth in the Action and will not be repeated here except as necessary to an understanding of Applicant's traversal which is presented after a discussion of the claim amendments.

Claim Amendments

The limits of claim 7 are included into claim 1 regarding the nature of the organic polymer. Claim 7 is cancelled.

The binder resin is limited in claim 1 as disclosed in the specification at page 6, lines 24-29.

In amended claim 1, the surfaces of inorganic fine particles are coated with an organic polymer selected from the group consisting of alkyl-based polymers, polymers having a urethane bond, polymers having an ester bond, polymers having an ether bond and acrylic polymers. Ota contains no disclosure of inorganic particles coated with the organic polymers now recited in claim 1.

In amended claim 1, the binder resin (b) is at least one selected from the group consisting of alkyl-based polymers, polymers having an urethane bond, polymers having an ester bond,

polymers having an ether bond and acrylic polymers. Ota is silent regarding the use of such binder resins.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that it is quite clear that the present claims are novel over Ota.

Since claim 7 was not rejected over Floch, Applicant believes that the above traversal applies with equal effect to Floch as the claims are limited in the manner to avoid Floch.

The Present Invention

The present invention is characterized by the fact that the low-refractive index of the layer is achieved by voids formation. The content of the organic solvent and the solids content in the coating solution have an influence on the formation of the voids as specified in claim 9. The effect of content of the organic solvent and the solids content is explained in the specification at page 9, line 26 to page 10, line 17.

Neither Ota nor Floch describe or suggest the effect of the content of the organic solvent and the content of the solids and the beneficial results achieved in accordance with the present invention.

Withdrawal of all rejections and allowance is requested.

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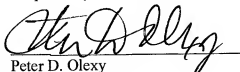
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Respectfully submitted,


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